

The *Public i*, a project of the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center, is an independent, collectively-run, community-oriented publication that provides a forum for topics underreported and voices underrepresented in the dominant media. All contributors to the paper are volunteers. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to submit articles or story ideas to the editorial collective. We prefer, but do not necessarily restrict ourselves to, articles on issues of local impact written by authors with local ties. *The opinions are those of the authors and do not reflect the views of the IMC as a whole.*

EDITORS/FACILITATORS:

- Brian Dolinar
- Darrin Drda
- Scott Edwards
- Wendy Edwards
- Linda Evans
- Belden Fields
- Bob Illyes
- Meghan Krausch
- Paul Mueth
- Laura Stengrim

THE PUBLIC I

Urbana-Champaign IMC
218 West Main St., Urbana, IL, 61801
217-344-8820

Websites:

<http://publici.ucimc.org>
www.ucimc.org

Postcards for Peace

Postcards for Peace, a charity art auction to benefit the UCIMC and AWARE, will be held **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 FROM 2-5 PM AT THE COWBOY MONKEY**

6 Taylor St., downtown Champaign. Music will be provided by **Theory of Everything.**

The auction features donated art works from local, national, and international artists and will include both silent and live components. In addition, select art works will also be available for purchase as mass-printed postcards (think Christmas cards!).

If you would like to contribute your art work or volunteer to help with framing, contact Rebecca Plummer Rohloff at 217-328-3059 or rrohloff@uiuc.edu.

Peace Bazaar Dec. 4th

The 34th annual Peace Bazaar will be held Saturday, December 4th at Community United Church of Christ (6th and Daniel) from 9 to 3. The Peace Bazaar is an annual community event selling alternative gifts (new and recycled), UNICEF cards and calendars, artwork, toys, books, plants, fresh-baked goods and much more. Funds raised go to groups promoting peace and social justice.

We are looking for donations of items to sell, as well as volunteers. (We are not accepting donations of used clothing, computer equipment, broken items or violent toys.) Please contact Joan Nelshoppin at 369-2853 or jnelshoppin@insightbb.com if you have donations you'd like to contribute (or drop them off at 412 W Oregon St, Urbana), or if you have any questions.

UNICEF Cards Available

A large selection of UNICEF cards, calendars, and gift items will soon be on sale at the University YMCA, 1001 S. Wright St., Ch. UNICEF products will be sold during the lunch hours (11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.) on weekdays from Nov. 1 - Nov. 19 and Nov. 29 - Dec. 3. Purchase of UNICEF cards and calendars enriches the lives of children throughout the world with programs designed to protect their rights and improve their health. For more information contact Joan Nelshoppin at 369-2853 or jnelshoppin@insightbb.com.

Anti-War Protest

The Anti-War Anti-Racism Effort (AWARE) will demonstrate against war and occupation, no matter who wins the elections, on **Saturday November 6, 2004, from 2-4 pm** at the northwest corner of **North Prospect Ave and Marketview** in Champaign. All are welcome. Bring your own sign or borrow one of ours. Dress warm. And please don't park at Red Lobster: they need theirspace. See www.anti-war.net for more on local anti-war anti-racism efforts.

Sustaining Contributors

The *Public i* wishes to express its deep appreciation to the following sustaining contributors for their financial and material support:

SocialistForum: An Open Discussion and Action Group, *Meets 3rd Saturdays of the month, 3-5 pm, at IMC, 218 W. Main St. (U)*

Jerusalem Cafe
601 S. Wright St, Champaign; 398-9022

The AFL-CIO of Champaign County

World Harvest International and Gourmet Foods
519 E. University, Champaign

That's Rentertainment
516 E. John, Champaign; 384-0977

The Union of Professional Employees (UPE)

Staff of OJC Technologies
www.ojctech.com
278-3933 115 W. Main, Urbana

The Natural Gourmet
2225 S. Neil, Champaign; 355-6365

National Fish Therapeutic Massage
113 N. Race, Urbana, 239-3400

The Social Equity Group, Financial West
Socially Responsible Investing

If you or your organization would like to become a sustaining contributor to the *Public i*, or would like more information, please call 344-7265, or email imc-print@ucimc.org.

Get Involved with the Public i

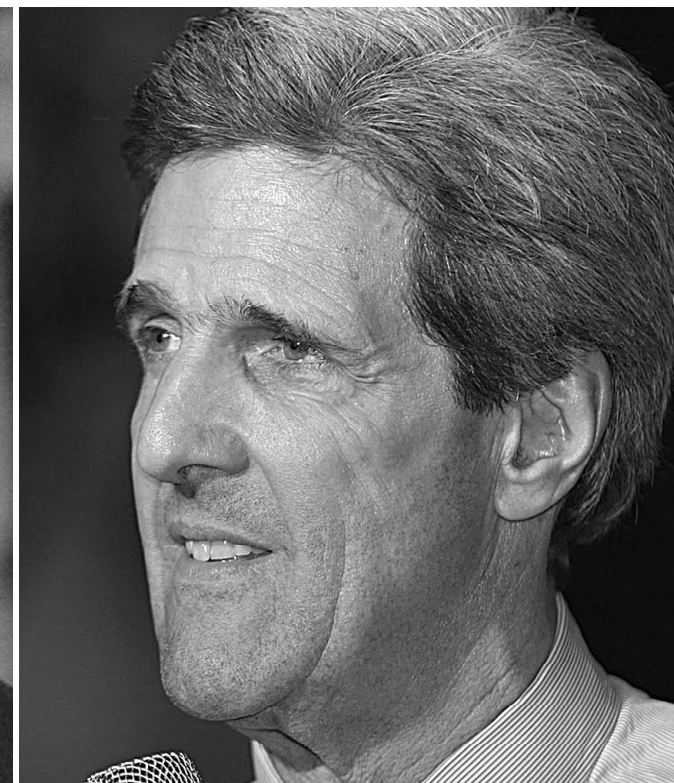
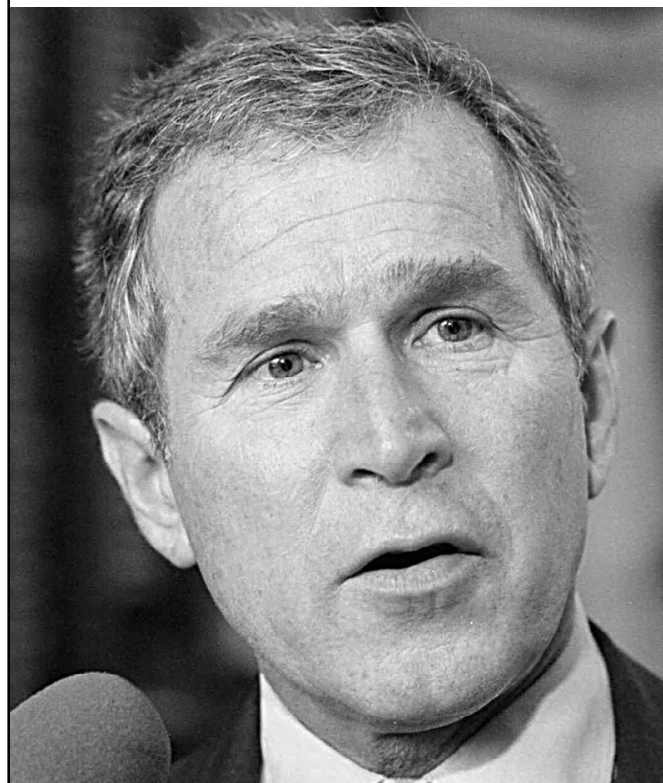
You don't need a degree in journalism to be a citizen journalist. We are all experts in something, and we have the ability to share our information and knowledge with others. The *Public i* is always looking for writers and story ideas. We invite you to submit ideas or proposals during our weekly meetings (Thursdays at 5:30pm at the UCIMC), to post a story to the web site (<http://www.ucimc.org>), or to contact one of the editors.

- Become a citizen journalist; write a news story or opinion piece.
- Make a tax-deductible contribution.
- Help distribute the public i around the Champaign-Urbana area.
- Help with fund-raisers.
- Join the editorial board.

Published by the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center

November 2004 • V4 #9

AMERICA LOSES!
When the democratic system is broken.



Please choose one: Despot Sellout Corrupt, money- and media-driven system in which "majority rule" means nothing



Emergency Contraception
Brooke Anderson
Page 1



Can We Vote?
Ricky Baldwin
Page 3



Debate Rhetoric
Laura Stengrim & Others
Page 4



Voting & IMC Servers
Scott Edwards
Page 7,8

Campaign for Access to Emergency Contraception

November 2004 • V4 #9

By Brooke Anderson



Brooke Anderson is a Community Organizer for Champaign County Health Care Consumers. She is the lead organizer for CCHCC's Campaign for Access to Emergency Contraception.

ON MARCH 3RD, 1873, the U.S. Congress passed the Comstock Act, criminalizing the publication, distribution, and possession of information about contraception. In the intervening century, everyday women fought hard for their birth control rights. They marched and picketed, were arrested and jailed, and saw their clinics raided and ransacked. Eventually, they succeeded in legalizing birth control. But it was not until 1965 that the U.S. Supreme Court made contraceptives legal for married women and not until 1972 that contraceptives were legalized for unmarried women.

Our mothers and grandmothers fought to legalize contraception, but that legal right means less and less in a world of rising health care costs and plummeting wages that make contraception unaffordable for many women. Today, we fight for accessible and affordable contraception. In 2003, Champaign County Health Care Consumers, Planned Parenthood, and dozens of other groups throughout the state joined to pass statewide legislation that requires all health insurance plans in Illinois to cover prescription contraceptives. Millions of women throughout the state now have access to prescription contraceptives.

But we know that regular methods of contraception are only about 98% effective (depending on the method). Throughout the course of their lives, many women will have their regular method of contraception fail, have unprotected sex, or be sexually assaulted and need timely access to affordable emergency contraception. With this in mind, in May 2004, we began the Campaign for Access to Emergency Contraception.

Emergency contraception (or EC) is a special dose of ordinary birth control pills that can prevent unintended pregnancy when

taken up to five days after unprotected sex, contraceptive failure, or sexual assault. EC is not a substitute for correct use of regular contraception and provides no protection against HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

While EC can be taken up to five days (120 hrs) after unprotected sex, it is most effective the sooner it is taken. For instance, EC can reduce the risk of pregnancy by 95% when taken within 1 day (24 hrs) and up to 89% when taken within 3 days (72 hrs). Dr. Kim Glow, a specialist in adolescent and young adult medicine said, "Emergency Contraception is every woman's right, and health care providers need to inform their patients of this very important pregnancy prevention option."

EC is not an abortifacient. If a woman is already pregnant, EC will not work. EC can only prevent, not terminate, a pregnancy because EC works by inhibiting ovulation, fertilization, and/or the implantation of a fertilized egg. According to Samantha Hack-Ritzo, a volunteer for the campaign, "The American Medical Association defines pregnancy as the implantation of a fertilized egg. EC should never be confused with an abortion because EC has no effect on an already implanted, fertilized egg."

Since a woman must currently have a prescription to get EC, many women cannot get EC in time for it to be effective. For this reason, the Campaign for Access to EC has launched an effort to make EC available to women without a prescription. There are two ways to do this - (1) on the national level, FDA approval of EC for sale over-the-counter, and (2) on the state level, legislation that would allow pharmacists to dispense EC to women at the pharmacy without a prescription.

In December 2003, the Food and Drug

Administration's expert panel convened to consider an application to make EC available over-the-counter voter 24-3 to approve Plan B (a specific brand of EC) for sale over-the-counter. However, the FDA commissioner, whose signature is needed for approval, caved to political pressure from the Bush administration and right-wing members of Congress and refused to sign off on the recommendation of the expert panel, citing concerns about EC and teen sexual activity.

University High School senior and EC organizer, Lauri Feldman, disagrees with the FDA Commissioner's decision, saying that young women need access to health care and information, "It's important for high school students to be involved in EC advocacy, for their own education, to help educate their peers. Without correct information, teens can't be expected to make informed decisions."

Barr Laboratories, makers of Plan B, have since re-applied to the FDA with a revised application that stipulates that women 16 and older could get EC over-the-counter, while women 15 and younger would be required to obtain a prescription. While the Campaign for Access to Emergency Contraception believes that all women of reproductive age should have access to EC over-the-counter, we are pushing for FDA approval of this application as a first step in increasing women's access to EC.

However, we also believe that women in Illinois don't have time to waste waiting for the FDA to approve EC for sale over-the-counter. Instead, we've proposed state legislation - Illinois House Bill 6577 - that would allow pharmacists to dispense EC to a woman without a prescription. Six other states currently have similar laws and those laws have already helped more women access EC.

Our mothers and grandmothers fought to legalize contraception, but that legal right means less and less in a world of rising health care costs and plummeting wages that make contraception unaffordable for many women.

The Campaign for Access to Emergency Contraception recently launched its push for FDA approval and state legislation at a rally for EC on Thursday, October 28th at Mini Park II in Champaign. The rally was attended by over 150 people, including community members, high school and college students, physicians, religious leaders, and parents.

At the rally, organizers distributed the results of a survey of all Champaign County pharmacies. The survey indicated that while many Champaign County pharmacies stock EC, many (such as Target, Wal-Mart, Meijer, and Provena Covenant) refuse to fill prescriptions for EC. Parkland College student and representative of the Student Alliance for Multicultural Education, Rachel White-Domain said, "Some pharmacies refuse to stock EC because they say it's 'controversial,' but you don't see pharmacies refusing to stock Viagra because it's controversial." Protestors called on all pharmacies to stock EC, chanting "Target, Target, can't you see, we want you to stock EC!!"

Local physician, Dr. Anne Robin, wrote EC prescriptions for women on the spot. A delegation of women then went across the street to Osco Drug Store to fill their prescriptions, and returned, holding their prescriptions in the air as the crowd cheered them on.

If you need emergency contraception, call Planned Parenthood at (217) 359-8200 or visit www.ppeci.org. If you are a UIUC student, you can get EC at McKinley Health Center by calling (217) 333-2700 or visiting www.mckinley.uiuc.edu.

If you live outside Champaign-Urbana, you can get EC by calling 1 (800) NOT-2-LATE or 1 (800) 230-PLAN, or by visiting www.not-2-late.com. It is strongly encouraged to get a prescription for EC ahead of time to keep on hand in case of an emergency.

For more information on the Campaign for Access to Emergency Contraception, contact Brooke Anderson at (217) 352-6533, ext. 17 or cchcc@healthcareconsumers.org. You can also visit the campaign's website at www.healthcareconsumers.org/EC.



Photo by Wendy Edwards



Photo by Brooke Anderson



Photo by Wendy Edwards

LoCal



U-N-I-T-Y in U-C

Why are YOU marching for UNITY?

Compiled by Brian Dolinar

IN THE POURING RAIN, ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, spirited members of our community marched for unity and weathered the storm. They met at two locations – Douglass Park on the North side and Scott Park on the South side – to walk to the police station in Champaign, where the two groups converged and marched on to West Side Park for a rally. The 2004 Unity March represented a wide cross-section of the community. The following comments reflect their shared desire for unity.



CATHERINE HOGUE, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD DISTRICT 5

I like to see this coming together of our entire community—children, adults, some of us older, some of us younger—and we can get some of these things accomplished, because we can make changes by doing this. I'd like to see us not so re-active. I'd like to see us be more pro-active.



needs and concerns of minorities. I'm here because minorities have problems, they need to set the agenda, and then we need to follow what they tell us.



DAVID KELLY

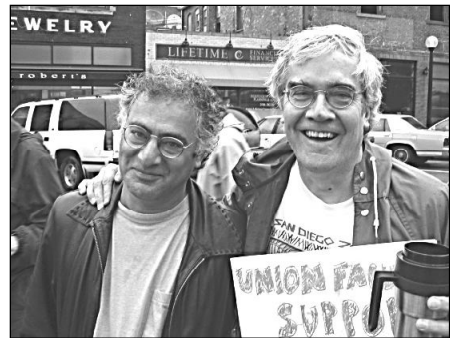
It started out to be a good deed for my grandchildren, which are ten. I've always been a person that believes in unity and the United States and all that it represents. This is the only way you're going to have unity. Everybody is on one accord, striving to have the same thing.

Being a born-again Christian, I've learned of how God's people are to act and conduct themselves. They are to be in unity for the good of each other.



WILL HILL

What unity means is, just like we did today—it was withstanding the storm. Holding your ground on what you believe in. Unity to me is holding your ground. Over the years, of what I've learned about the history, is that the campus and the town used to be a lot more united. And over time the relationship has been hurt. So I'm here to provide some healing, to show some initiative, and let people know I'm a student. I also live here now, I'm a resident. I'm voting on November 2nd as a Champaign resident. Now it is critical. You want to yell the loudest right when you see people coming across the finish line.



JIM BARRETT (above right)

There's some specific issues like the eavesdropping case and the pursuit of a civilian review board for the police in Champaign. I think the main thing is to bring the different communities of the town together around issues of social justice. Because of the color-line—which is definitely there, the city is segregated—you have to make a special effort to bring the community together. Its my police department, this is my town. I support the police in general, but I like to see them treating all citizens fairly.

ANAND PILLAY (above left)

I'm here to support the demonstration in favor of a citizen review board, dropping these eavesdropping charges, in favor of a greater racial unity in the Champaign-Urbana area, for all these progressive issues, that's why I'm here. Racism concerns everybody. If there's police discrimination, it should concern everybody. Therefore, you should be concerned with fairness, with justice.

PETER ROHLOFF

I've been in Champaign for six years and I've never seen the North and the South sides come together. Its just amazing to see broad-based community things happening and I'm excited to be a part of it. One of the problems with white liberal movements is that they oftentimes don't recognize the real



Photos by Wndy Edwards



CHANNEL X

Sinclair: Stolen Values

We interrupt this democracy for a special broadcast of "The Guy Who Volunteered for Military Service is Really a Liberal Peacenik".

For balance, we could also air "The Guy Who Avoided Military Service is Really a Warmongering Chickenhawk", but we figure you could always go out into the cold and rent that one yourself.

This program comes courtesy of a company that stands to profit handsomely from media consolidation efforts supported by the incumbent.

It will be followed by another stolen election, brought to you in part by the Republicans of the Diebold corporation.

Ain't freedom a wonderful thing?

Please pass me the remote, and my revolver.

**BY 10
DR 19
DA 04**



Can We Vote?

Barriers to Full Participation Remain Rampant

by Ricky Baldwin



CAROL AMMONS SAYS the Champaign County Clerk's office has rejected hundreds of voter registrations collected during a drive by her group, C-U Citizens for Peace and Justice, and the reasons for

rejection seem hard to swallow. One local man allegedly mailed in his registration form with a note requesting a form for his "wife," but his form was returned because he had failed to check "male" or "female."

A large number of new registrants, some with Ammons group and some not, also reported that the Clerk's office was rejecting an "old form" that is supposedly no longer valid. Ammons says she had personally picked up about 30 of these blank forms from the driver's license bureau. "I specifically asked the man there if he was sure these were the right forms," she said. "And he said, yes, these are the forms we've been using. But after we turned them in, they were all rejected."

Area librarians also report similar problems. Local citizens who inquired about voter registration forms at local libraries reported that the forms available at local libraries were the same forms that the Clerk's office told them were no longer valid. But when librarians called to double-check, the Clerk's office said they had the right forms.

Organizers of a recent "Rock the Vote" musical event say the Clerk's office also told them they could not make voter registration forms available because of the proximity of alcohol. Although official rules forbid a registrar from signing up voters where alcohol is served, there is no such restriction on so-called Motor Voter forms like those available at driver's license bureaus and libraries.

"The county clerk's efforts to suppress voting have been vigorous and persistent," said Urbana City Councilwoman Esther Patt. "In 2000, two of my co-workers turned in change of address of registration the first week in September. The guy who lived in Savoy got a new voter registration card three days later. The woman who lived on Fifth & Green didn't get her new card until the day before the election."

"This year, [County Clerk Mark Shelden] showed up at Quad Day around 11:00 a.m. after more than 300 students had registered to vote and decreed that the forms they used were no good under a November 2003 law," Patt said. "He had been accepting those forms for months, right up through August of this year until his decision on Quad Day to deem them invalid. All those people had to re-register. On Election Day in 2000, polling places in Mahomet had extra booths and in the polling places on campus, people had to wait in lines because there weren't enough booths. One polling place ... ran out of ballots. How does this happen?"

A call to the County Clerk's office was not immediately returned, but other community activists, notably in the Green Party, say they have had no problems with the County Clerk. In fact, compared to other county clerks in Illinois, they say, Mark Shelden's administration has been very conscientious. Yet the question remains: if so many people

are having trouble registering and voting in one small town, no matter who is specifically to blame, isn't there a problem? And it isn't just here.

A NATION OF FLORIDAS

In the US over the last four years, a quote attributed to former Soviet dictator Josef Stalin has become popular: "The people who cast the votes decide nothing. The people who count the votes decide everything." Historians and urban legend busters are pretty much agreed that the quote is fake. But it continues to appear on tee-shirts, bumper stickers and elsewhere. It seems to resonate with large number of people these days, many of whom probably had never lent an eyeball to stories of problems with voting machines, long lines at the polls or inaccessibility of voter registration forms – before November 2000, that is.

But as we go to print, the specter of the "Stolen Election" of 2000 hangs over the current election cycle as if it happened yesterday. And judging by how much has been done to correct the problems that made Florida a symbol of electoral debacle, you might think it did happen yesterday.

Just weeks before the elections, former President Jimmy Carter was in Florida observing the elections and wrote in the Washington Post that "The disturbing fact is that a repetition of the problems of 2000 now seems likely," (9/27/04). Carter says the basic conditions for a fair election do not at present exist in Florida, citing "basic international requirements for a fair election" such as a nonpartisan electoral commission or official organizing and conducting the electoral process and uniformity of voting procedures for all citizens as "missing in Florida," (AP 9/27/04).

In fact, problems cropped up in Florida within one hour after early voting began there (AP 10/18/04). A sitting state legislator claimed she was given an incomplete ballot. Computers were not in working order in Broward and Orange Counties. And more problems seem likely to surface at the time of this writing.

Nor have problems been limited to the state where the President's brother is Governor. Carter could have cited similar problems in a number of states. A private contractor in Colorado has failed to send out over 13,000 absentee ballots, according to the AP (10/21/04). A group of international observers from 15 countries said Georgia's electronic voting machines should produce paper receipts and that poll workers needed more training.

And BBC investigative journalist Greg Palast has written extensively and disturbingly on voter disenfranchisement during the 2000 election and since. Palast broke stories such as the debacle in Gadsden, Florida's "blackest" county, where optical scanning machines rejected over 2,000 ballots with even the tiniest stray marks, while in

neighboring "white" Tallahassee the same machines returned the same "spoiled" ballots to voters so they could try again. Gadsden County alone more than accounted for Gore's loss of the state.

Among Palast's recent revelations is the story that DBT Online, now ChoicePoint, the Republican-connected company infamously responsible for the deletion of 94,000 Floridians from voting registers in order to prevent 3,000 ex-felons from voting, has since received contracts in states all across the country to supply and operate new computerized voting machines. These machines do not automatically produce any paper records, and local officials nationwide have demonstrated reluctance to order such paper trails. Moreover, with the proper access codes, election results can be altered without leaving any trace of evidence that it has been done or of what the actual results had been.

FRAUD AND OTHER BARRIERS

"There is so much fraud by election officials in these United States," says researcher Frances Fox Piven "And we always treat it – political scientists, pundits and the public – we always treat it as marginal. It certainly

wasn't marginal in 2000. And I don't think it's going to be marginal in 2004, either." Rather, "rampant" is the word she uses. "But there are multiple kinds of fraud," says Piven, "fraud through tampering with machines; fraud through turning people away for not having filled out one or another

inconsequential, nonsensical things; fraud when people come to the wrong polling place or the failure to give them a provisional ballot or to count provisional ballots; the failure to count the ballots of some mail-in voters and not other mail-in voters. Military voters will get counted. Overseas Americans who vote by absentee ballot will find it more difficult to get their votes counted, because they will be Kerry supporters."

In 1988 Piven and Richard A. Cloward published their findings on the barriers to voting in the US as *Why Americans Don't Vote*, which profoundly shocked many Americans who had assumed such things went out with Jim Crow, and later revised and updated the research for *Why Americans Still Don't Vote*. Piven and Cloward were largely responsible for the campaign that eventually led to the Motor Voter law, making voter registration forms more widely available.

But Piven says the law was never fully implemented. And there were "a lot of foul-ups," such as people not receiving a card telling them where to vote.

"But another problem is that the law was never really implemented in the other agencies," Piven says, "the agencies that serve poorer people, that are specified in the law: welfare, Medicaid, food stamps and disability agencies – and in some states in other agencies as well. In New York State, for

example, the big universities, SUNY and CUNY, are supposed to offer to register students to vote when they register for classes. And they don't do it. So the law was a step in the right direction, but the implementation of the law impeded its full effect. That's part of what happened."

The other part of the story, according to Piven and Cloward's *Why Americans Don't Vote*, is that the barriers to full participation in the United States are not solely procedural. Full participation, Piven says, also depends on parties that would mobilize those who were procedurally eligible to vote. "That couldn't happen unless people were in the voting pool. But if politicians ignore them, ignore their issues, don't work in their neighborhoods, don't speak in their language, then they will be discouraged."

"Now in this election, it's really interesting. There does seem to be a lot of interest among the non-voters in turning out. There is a surge among minority neighborhoods, in poorer neighborhoods and among young people. That's very, very important. Of course it could end up that we'll get a surge of several percentage points, Kerry will be elected, and if he disappoints these people by his policies, then the surge will recede and we'll go back to our fifty percent turnout rate."

So Piven does make procedural suggestions: full implementation of the Motor Voter law; proportional representation in the Electoral College (some states allow splitting their assigned votes, but most don't); voter-verified paper trails with all computerized voting; and other things. But for the most part, she advocates mobilizing the electorate around issues they care about, in effect making it impossible to ignore them.

Yes, she says, we must be vigilant and stamp out the kind of fraud that Greg Palast, Carol Ammons, Esther Patt and others report. Eligible voters must know that their votes will be counted, but more than this they must know that their participation will count. The way we do this, Piven says, is first we vote, then we "raise hell."

Eligible voters must know that their votes will be counted, but more than this they must know that their participation will count. The way we do this...is first we vote, then we "raise hell."

Boggs In Residence

Grace Lee Boggs will be a Guest-in-Residence at Unit One/Allen Hall 11/7-11/12. A schedule of her events is available at www.housing.uiuc.edu/living/unit1. All programs are open to the public and take place at Allen Hall, 1005 W. Gregory, Urbana.

Grace Lee Boggs is an activist, writer and speaker whose sixty years of political involvement encompass the major U.S. social movements of this century: Labor, Civil rights, Black Power, Asian American, Women's and Environmental Justice. In 1992, she co-founded Detroit Summer, a multicultural, intergenerational youth program to rebuild, redefine and respirit Detroit from the ground up. Currently she is active in Detroit Summer and with the Freedom Schoolers, writes for the weekly *Michigan Citizen*, and does a monthly commentary on WORT (Madison, Wisconsin). Her autobiography, *Living for Change*, is widely used in university classes on social movements and autobiography writing.



The Rhetoric of Election 2004

by Laura Stengrim



ESPECIALLY DURING PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS and political debates, citizens often hear candidates and pundits claiming, with an air of dismissal, that “it’s merely rhetoric”—implying that statements are untrue, policies are unrealistic, goals are unattainable, arguers not trustworthy. The suggestion is that there is a disjuncture between language and reality, between rhetoric and truth. In this 2004 election season, rhetoric was particularly important, for it was largely through outright lies (about WMDs and an Iraq-Al Qaeda connection) that we find ourselves within our current situation.

However, the academic pursuit of studying rhetoric goes far beyond uncovering truths and lies. Scholars of rhetoric pay attention to argumentative strategies, discursive patterns, and details of spoken and written communication that indicate how and why a given text is persuasive. Rhetoric and politics are closely connected because politicians rely on available rhetorical resources to make their cases to the public, because healthy public discourse relies on the proliferation of multiple opinions, and because American democracy entails the right to free speech. Those of us who are rhetorically-minded hope to contribute to public discourse by providing language-based analyses that inform, educate, and provide the critical tools necessary

for distinguishing between sound, ethical, logical argument and “mere rhetoric.”

To that end, I invited several fellow U of I critics, including undergraduates, grad students, and professors, to contribute short rhetorical analyses of the 2004 Presidential Debates in order to inform the C-U community of the styles, arguments, and strategies employed not only by Kerry and Bush but also by Edwards, Cheney, and other candidates running for federal, state, and local offices. Informed citizens must look at a candidate’s rhetorical style as well as the details of her platform before making voting decisions or engaging in political arguments, whether in this season or the future. Each contributor to project is a model for analysis and exemplar of such skills, for each contributor examines in detail the rhetoric of Election 2004 and offers a unique rhetorical perspective that goes beyond truth and lies, identifying discursive patterns and revealing the gaps in logic that underlie the rhetoric of politics.

RESOURCES

For transcripts of the debates, see www.CSPAN.org; for a handy searchable list of rhetorical tropes and figures, see *Silva Rhetoricae* at <http://rhetoric.byu.edu>; see also Richard Weaver, *The Ethics of Rhetoric* (1985), Aristotle’s *Rhetoric*, and Richard Lanham, *A Handlist of Rhetorical Terms* (1992).

Enthymeme

CARA FINNEGAN

In the first two debates, President Bush delivered at least five versions of the following argument about the Iraq War:

BUSH: I don’t see how you can lead this country to succeed in Iraq if you say wrong war, wrong time, wrong place. What message does that send our troops? What message does that send to our allies? What message does that send the Iraqis?

Post-debate spin made much of Bush’s clumsy repetition of the phrase, “wrong war, wrong time, wrong place.” But I am interested in a different feature of this argument. I submit that this argument illustrates in perfect microcosm Bush’s political philosophy, one that treats criticism as the primary threat to success.

We may classify this argument as an *enthymeme*, defined by Aristotle as an argument with a missing premise to be filled in by the audience with its own knowledge or beliefs. For example, if I said, “Susan is a great teacher; her classes always fill up first,” the audience would fill in the missing premise that “the classes of great teachers tend to fill first.” For Aristotle, the enthymeme was the most powerful form of persuasion because it is grounded in the beliefs of the audience.

However, it is also a risky form of persuasion because the speaker is always gambling that the audience will “fill in the blank” with the “right answer.”

Let’s see how the enthymeme works in a composite version of Bush’s arguments about Kerry’s criticism of the war:

PREMISE 1: John Kerry has criticized decision-making about the war.

PREMISE 2 (MISSING – ASSUMED/FILLED IN BY AUDIENCE): People who criticize decision-making about war can’t be successful at conducting war.

CONCLUSION: John Kerry can’t lead us to success in Iraq.

This argument is only successful for Bush if audience members share Bush’s belief that criticism is a pervasive threat to the higher values of “consistency,” “certainty,” and “success.” But such a belief is not necessarily self-evident in an American political system that was in fact founded on the opposite view: criticism is vital to a healthy democracy.

The fear of criticism has been a central focus of the administration’s re-election campaign, as illustrated by the risky enthymeme Bush sets forth (The Onion acknowledged this when it recently announced on its front page that the Bush administration had declared a “War on Criticism”). For Bush, criticism creates uncertainty, uncertainty creates weakness, and weakness wreaks havoc. Here are Bush’s own words from his closing remarks at the Sept. 30 debate: “If America shows uncertainty or weakness in this decade, the world will drift toward tragedy. That’s not going to happen, so long

as I’m your president.”

Fallacies

ROBIN JENSEN

Both presidential candidates committed logical fallacies during the debates. Bush, for instance, repeatedly made use of the *red herring* fallacy, otherwise known as changing the subject. Ask Bush where he stands on affirmative action policies and why, and he discusses his support for small businesses. Ask him about the lack of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, and he commits a *tu quoquo* fallacy along the lines of “yeah, but he did it too.” Bush claimed that he might have thought there were WMD in Iraq, but so did Kerry, so their mistakes cancel each other out. This line of reasoning overlooks the fact that Bush and Kerry were in very different positions of power when the U.S. invaded Iraq, and Kerry might have responded differently if his statements and decisions represented those of the entire country.

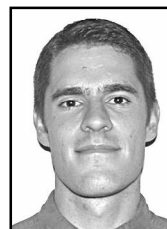
Kerry’s main fallacious tactic involved appealing to authority. He attempted to build up his own credibility by listing well-known public figures that he admires and with whom he hopes to be compared. He repeatedly mentioned former presidents Theodore Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan and their various achievements. Clearly, Kerry attempted to appeal to wavering swing voters who are critical of Bush but tend to align themselves with Republicans. Yet, dropping a name says little about the person who dropped it, and it could be argued that Kerry’s comparison of himself to other political figures is a false analogy.

By the third debate, Kerry stooped to Bush’s level by appealing to the fallacy of self-evident truth. Bush repeatedly made claims about “knowing how the world works” and “feeling” other people’s prayers for him and his family. It is all but impossible to refute these claims because there is no logic supporting them. In the second and third debates, Kerry began to back up his own statements by claiming he too “felt it in his gut,” therefore countering Bush’s self-evident truths with his own. Both candidates would be better served to trade in fallacious reasoning for well-reasoned, clear argumentative appeals.

Religious Rhetoric

KEVIN COE

In the final debate, President Bush claimed, “God wants everybody to be free,” reiterating a theme that has been a staple of his discourse—and foreign policy—since January 2003. For Bush, such rhetoric is politically invaluable: it speaks directly to the large block of conservative Christian voters the administration hopes to mobilize, while speaking indirectly to the segment of the American electorate that considers faith in a Christian god a necessary quality for a president to possess. Bush’s explicit claims about God’s designs for freedom have fundamentally reshaped modern presidential discourse.



Indeed, since Franklin Roosevelt took office seventy years ago such claims have been nearly nonexistent in major presidential addresses. Bush makes them in every major speech he gives, forcing Kerry to elevate his religious rhetoric just to keep pace. Regardless of one’s individual religious beliefs, all

people should be wary of the president making such claims because they leave the world in a horrifying position: two leaders are fighting an endless simulated holy war, both claiming loudly that god is on their side, and both holding firm to the belief that no end will suffice save total annihilation of the other.

Escalation

JEREMY ENGELS

Escalation is a trope that attempts to create a sense of crisis by predicting future calamity. We’ve seen this trope repeatedly during the Presidential Debates; the most glaring example was Vice-President Cheney’s claim that if Senator Kerry were elected, the United States would experience another 9/11. President Bush has used this strategy to argue that if Senator Kerry were elected, he would, as a liberal politician, raise taxes, legalize gay marriage, and turn the control of the United States’ armed forces over to the United Nations (thus turning Senator Kerry’s “global test” back upon him). Senator Kerry, with his recent suggestions of a “January Surprise” if President Bush is elected, has also used this strategy; indeed, he has claimed that if the President is reelected, he will reinstate the draft and continue to slash taxes for the upper classes.

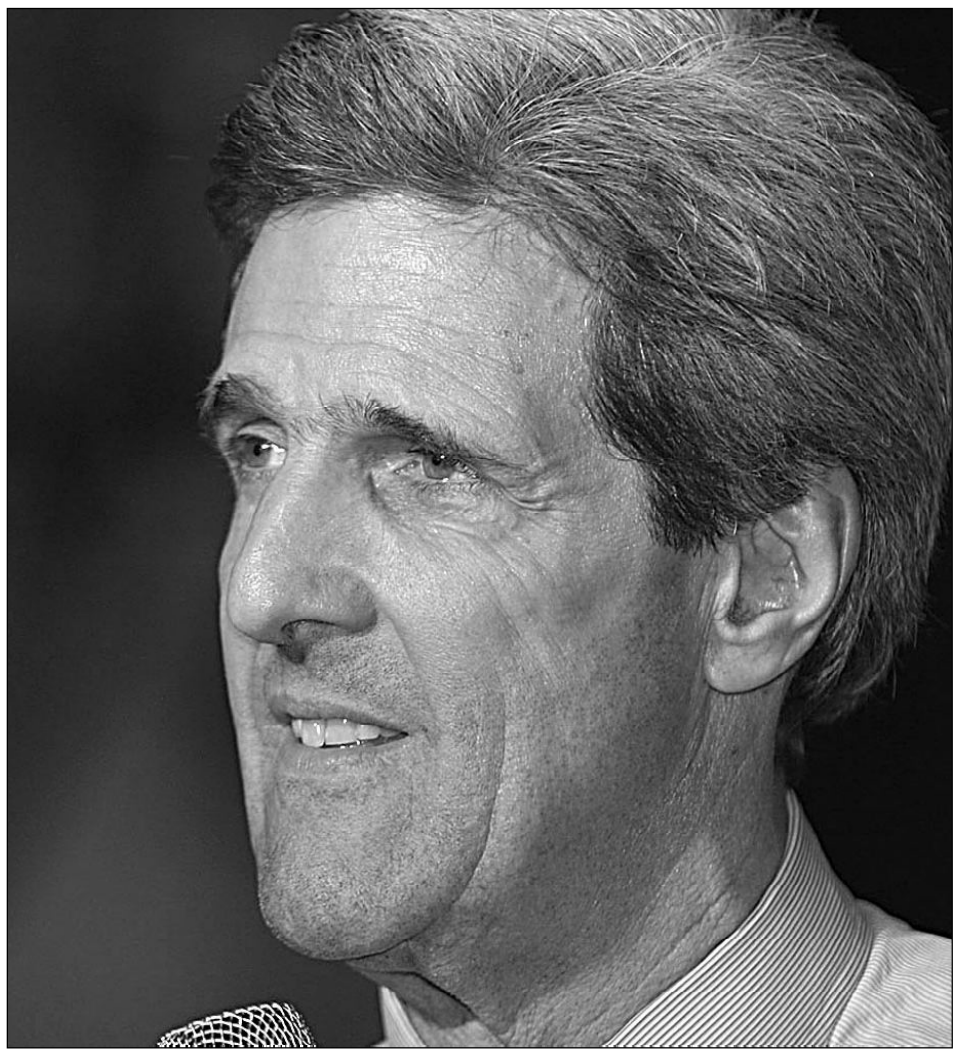
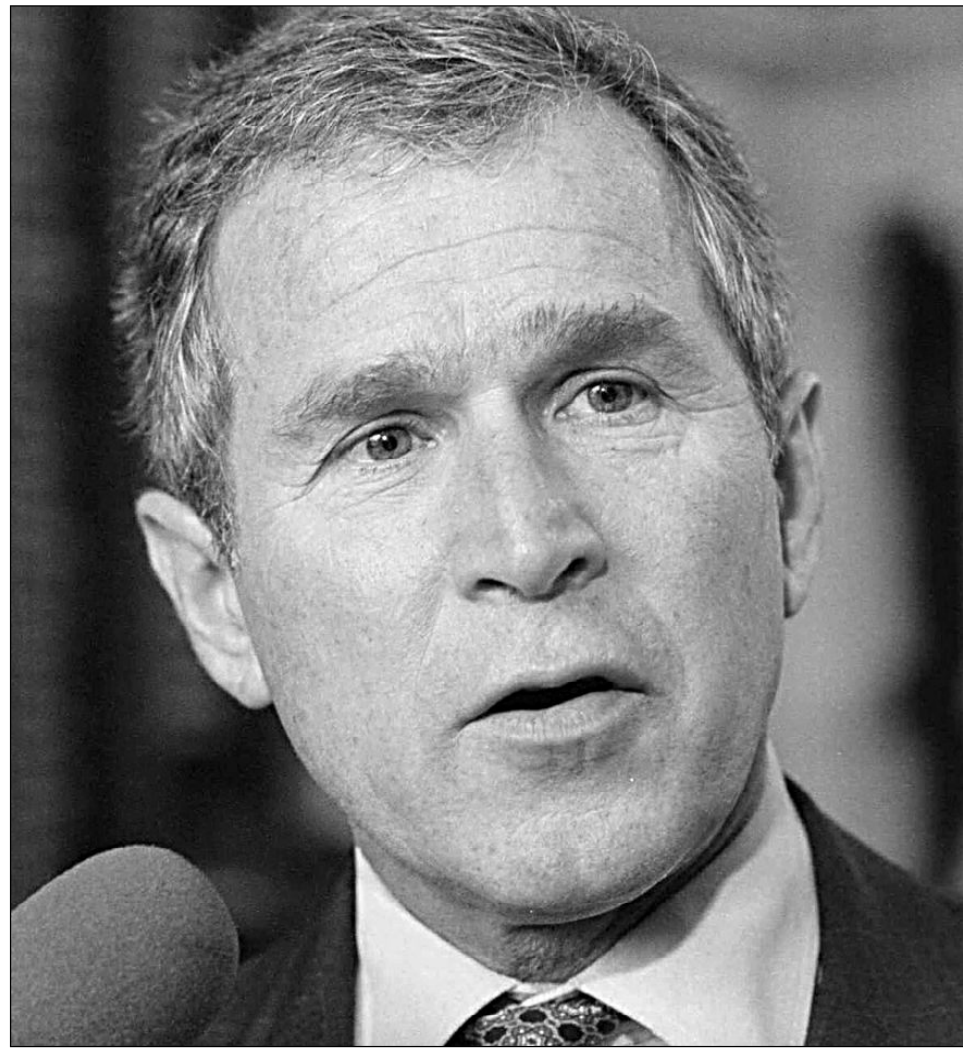
The problem with this trope is that it is impossible to predict the future. By creating a sense of crisis, escalation calls on citizens to make uninformed, uncritical decisions based on the fear of future consequences rather than on who has a better solution to current problems.

Clichés

JEREMY ENGELS

Clichés are generally thought of as overused or trite expressions, like “every cloud has a silver lining” or “nobody is perfect,” and hence given scant attention. Yet many clichés are what Richard Rorty calls “dead metaphors,” once new and provocative turns of phrase that have become commonplace. In the debates, President Bush was especially fond of using clichés. During the first debate, he used the phrase “it’s hard work” (or some variation of it) at least 11 times. This cliché was important for two reasons. First, it acted as a stand-in for a well-articulated answer to questions, because instead of detailing his plan for victory, the President said, “it’s hard work.” Second, clichés work because they connect with an audience. In a nation populated by citizens heav-





ily indebted to the Protestant Ethic, which values work and assures the beleaguered that if they work hard success will be theirs, suggesting hard work is an effective persuasive strategy. Indeed, clichés call for audiences to make a psychological transformation: because they value hard work in their lives, they will also value it in Iraq; and because they know that it is a sin not to work hard, to turn away from the President's challenges that the U.S. must work hard is to sin. The cliché of "hard work" is therefore powerful because it is nearly impossible to rebut clichés. The most effective strategy is to counter a cliché with another, but then the quality of the debate deteriorates to sound-bites and platitudes.

Anesis

NICHOLE EVANS

Although the President cultivates the image of a plainspoken Texan, and despite his oft-criticized ineloquence, Bush frequently has a sense of what is appropriate to say in a given situation; however, his actual execution may veer slightly—sometimes grossly—off track. Rhetorical scholars have a term for this problem, *anesis*, or when a concluding remark diminishes the overall impact of what has been previously said. For Bush, this frequent slip of tongue makes him look insincere, uncompassionate, or just plain pompous. Whether Bush means to convey what his anesic comments say is irrelevant, for in communication message effects are more easily discernible than a speaker's intent.

Throughout his tenure, Bush has given us many examples of anesis, but one statement during the first Presidential Debate raised heckles. When asked to justify the number of American casualties in Iraq since the official end of combat, Bush replied that every life is precious and acknowledged that he had difficulty with the decision to put soldiers in harm's way. This seemed to be an appropriate response, but then he launched into a narrative about Missy Johnson, whose husband P.J. was killed while serving in Iraq. At the end of this narrative, Bush said, "You know, it's hard work to try to love her as best as I can, knowing full well that the decision I made caused her loved one to be in harm's way." I watched the first debate on campus in a crowded auditorium. When Bush said this, there were audible groans of disgust. While the idea of "hard work" was a repeated theme for Bush in this first debate, it should not be "hard work" to show compassion to some-

one who has suffered because of a decision he made. Whether Bush meant to say those exact words is not important—image is rarely formed solely on a speaker's intent. In this instance, Bush only succeeded in giving his enemies more ammunition for claims that he is insensitive to troops and doesn't understand the impact of his decisions.

Identification

TROY COOPER

Much emphasis has been placed on Kerry's military service record. The ubiquitous and sometimes satirized recount of his three Purple Hearts may come to mind. Kerry is using this strategy as a form of rhetorical identification. That is, in order to persuade an audience, he is establishing common ground. Using language that appeals to average American patriotism, Kerry attempts to build rapport with the public through common values. Bush relentlessly attacks this identification with another pervasive phrase: "Wrong War, Wrong Place, Wrong Time." In an attempt to destroy the common ground that Kerry is building, Bush tries to discredit Kerry's military prowess by referring to this comment Kerry made about the Iraq war. It is, however, remarkable that Bush's military service is rarely recalled, especially with the emphasis that he places on military power and dominance.

Distinct Rhetorical Styles

RICHARD BESEL

In regurgitated statements against Kerry, Republicans often included zingers like "flip-flop." Democrats often referenced the line "consistency when wrong is no virtue." Although it would be easy to dismiss these words as political posturing by biased individuals, a more interesting rhetorical complexity is that conservatives tend to argue in terms of principles while liberals argue in terms of practical circumstances. Borrowing from Richard Weaver's *The Ethics of Rhetoric*, I contend this year's candidates are making two very different kinds of arguments couched within two very different political and rhetorical styles.

Bush utilizes what Weaver has called "argument from principle." Individuals using this argument style often employ "axiomatic definition" and argue from "fundamental sources." For example, in the third debate Presi-

dent Bush addressed the issue of jobs and taxes. His basic argument was to keep government out of the lives of individuals as much as possible and to let them decide how to spend their money. He concluded his answer with the following: "I believe the role of government is to stand side by side with our citizens to help them realize their dreams, not tell citizens how to live their lives." Bush is clearly arguing from a principle, that government should absolutely not dictate how citizens should live their lives through tax policy.

Kerry, unlike Bush, used "argument from circumstance." This argument style is "the nearest of all arguments to purest expediency." It is one based on "facts standing around." Thus, if the facts of a case change, one could also change her mind about it. For example, just before Bush talked about jobs and taxes, Kerry talked about how we need to restore some of the tax policies of previous generations. He concluded by saying: "Restore fiscal discipline, we'll do a lot better." For Kerry, tax policies and jobs were put into a comparative frame. This frame allowed Kerry to argue for something that is "better" for the times and not necessarily "right" at all times.



Anaphora

JANAI RANDOLPH

Senator Kerry used anaphora, a rhetorical strategy in which the same word or phrase is repeated at the beginning of a phrase, clause, or sentence, throughout the debate to emphasize his points about the failures of the Bush presidency. One example is from the third debate, when Kerry stated, "he's the only president in history to do this. He's also the only president in 72 years to lose jobs – 1.6 million jobs lost. He's the only president to have incomes of families to go down for the last three years, the only president to see exports go down, the only president to see the lowest level of business investment in our country as it is today." Kerry wants Americans to know that the president is "the only" president to preside in this way, stressing the fact that Bush has been a horrible leader and that he has worked on behalf of the wealthy instead of ordinary people. Using anaphora, Kerry powerfully suggests that Bush's failures as president are not just appalling but unique to U.S. history.





The 2004 Election Legal Challenges: We All Lose, Not Because He Won

by Scott Edwards



"Anyone who is capable of getting themselves made President should on no account be allowed to do the job."

— Douglas Adams, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

"The United States is a nation of laws: badly written and randomly enforced."

— Frank Zappa

AS YOU READ THIS ARTICLE, there is a decent chance legal challenges are delaying the final results of the presidential election, assuming the outcomes said legal challenges might affect the final electoral balance. Analysis of the pre-election electoral landscape of my home state, Florida, leads some to believe that we are indeed likely to see another delay in the final results from there and possibly Ohio. With 20 electoral votes, an Ohio delay will likely lead to a similar situation we saw in 2000: a contested election days or even weeks after voting.

The Democrats have recruited as many as 20,000 lawyers that will be rapidly deployed in case of legal challenges, and the Republicans have a similar number. Lawyers for both sides will be at polling stations, prepared to head-off any problems as they develop. "There are people who felt that the Democrats didn't fight hard enough [in 2000]. That's not going to happen [this time]," said DNC Chairman Terry McAuliffe, in response to RNC accusations that Democrats intend to circumvent the electoral process through the courts.

The major parties have been planning for post-2004 election legal campaigns well before primary races were completed. The Bush and Kerry Campaigns already have well funded legal accounts, raising an important question about the scope of campaign finance laws as they relate

to this type money. One could make the case that if a candidate was unable to "buy" the election through the normal electoral process, the status of legal-challenge fundraising could allow them to "buy" the election through the court system.

"POOR LOSER"

Al Gore was vilified by partisans as a "poor loser" when he decided to pursue legal remedy (at least half-heartedly) in the 2000 election to force ballots in Florida to be counted. In this election, we are likely to see most legal-challenge initiations made by Democrats, as we saw in 2000. Is this because Democrats are poor electoral sports? Ralph Nader might believe such, given the difficulty he's had surmounting Democratic legal challenges to ballot access in many states (despite circumstantial Republican help).

While I certainly wouldn't defend ballot access challenges, Democrats may be more likely to pursue legal action after the election because of the make-up of the party's constituency. Minorities, the poor, and inexperienced voters are disproportionately more likely to identify as Democrats. These are also segments of the electorate that are most likely to be disenfranchised in some way. (We didn't hear about the disenfranchisement of the religious right or CEOs in 2000, did we?). These groups are also likely to be geographically concentrated, increasing the chances that polling problems in certain communities might constitute the basis for legitimate equal protection violation claims.

A DISASTROUS PRECEDENT, OR IMPENDING JUSTICE?

The fact that elections are being decided in the court system may be troubling to you. It may seem as if, some-

how, elections have gotten "worse" starting with 2000. I disagree. Before 2000, ballots were lost in elections. Votes were miscounted. And yes, like in the 2000 election in Florida, poor and minority voters were systematically disenfranchised. These problems have always been.

Polls indicate that a majority of Americans believe the election will be decided in the courts. The fact that elections now have an assumed judicial component is not a problem in itself, but rather an indication of a greater ill in the American electoral system.

If anything, court challenges may be the best development for American democracy since the barring of poll taxes. While having the President chosen by the courts is not ideal democracy, it makes it difficult to ignore problems of unequal ballot access, election irregularities, equal representation disasters, and the general malaise of U.S. democracy. Addressing these problems require both institutional reform and practical changes in the way elections are run. And, hopefully, enough people will become sick of appointed judges deciding the outcomes of elections to initiate some meaningful change in how citizens in the U.S. choose their government.

As you read this, however, it may also be the case that there was a clear winner on Nov. 2, and there were little or no legal challenges. Remember, though, just because there were no challenges based on racial discrimination, improper election management, or uncounted ballots doesn't mean it didn't happen. It surely did. Now lets do something about it.

If you are interested in working towards electoral reform, contact the author at sedward1@uiuc.edu

What is Anarcho-Syndicalism?

By B. Salt

In an attempt to provide information about alternatives to electoral politics, the *Public i* will be publishing a number of articles about anarchism, each written by a different community member with a different take on the subject. Look for the next installment in our December issue.

ANARCHO-SYNDICALISM COMBINES the movement for political liberty with the movement for economic liberty. Anarcho-syndicalists believe that formal democracy is not enough. Citizenship rights do not mean much when elections can be bought by wealthy campaign contributors and the media is controlled by large corporations. Nor does democracy exist when communities and even national governments are held hostage to large monopolistic corporations that threaten to withhold investments or run-away to other countries unless laws are "business friendly". Local communities and workers should make the decisions that affect their economic livelihood.

Anarcho-syndicalists believe that democracy can only be achieved through the abolition of wage slavery. Wage slavery exists wherever workers must give up their rights in order to earn a living. Workers should be involved in decisions about wages, working conditions, safety, and economic planning to the extent that these decisions concern them. Just as citizens in our country believe there should be "no taxation without representation", neither should there be work without representation. The highest authority in

any workplace should be the general assembly of the workers themselves. No managerial duties should be delegated except by election of the workers. Managers should have limited powers and be subject to recall.

In order to abolish wage slavery it will be necessary for workers and local communities to take ownership over the means of production and distribution.

Any workplace that is not currently owned by those who work it would be turned into a democratic cooperative. Small businesses would function as before with the exception of those employing workers outside the family. Local communities would provide essential public services like health care, transportation, utilities, elementary education and so forth, by making contractual agreements with workers in those fields, and paid for by a tax on the cooperatives. Banking and investment would be a joint arrangement between the worker cooperatives and the communities. Activities beyond the scope of a single community or single industry would be organized by federations of multiple communities and industries. These federations would be

accountable to their members.

The way anarcho-syndicalists will bring this about is by organizing workers into worker-run unions. Anarcho-syndicalists call this "building the new society within the shell of the old." To realize its true potential the labor movement needs to function the same way as the future society. Union officers should be limited in their powers, and accountable to the

members. The assembly of all union members must be the highest authority in any union local or branch. When worker-run unions represent the majority of the labor force, they will be in a position to shut down the autocratic side of the economy and start up again in a democratic and

cooperative way.

Anarcho-syndicalism has had some success in practice. The labor movements of many countries have unions that are influenced by anarcho-syndicalist ideas. The Industrial Workers of the World is such a union in the United States. So far the peak of the anarcho-syndicalist movement was achieved in Spain, when during the Spanish Civil War many industries within Republican

Spain were under the control of worker collectives, until the rebel military junta aided by Hitler and Mussolini crushed the loyalists. There are more recent examples of labor movements producing sweeping social changes. In the 1980s the Soviet Union was undermined by the Polish Solidarity movement, which deserves more of the credit for "winning the Cold War" than does Ronald Reagan. During the same period, the labor movement of South Africa played a similar role in ending the apartheid regime. Currently there is a growing workers' movement in Argentina that has begun a series of takeovers of factories that were threatened with shutdowns by their owners.

To find out more about anarcho-syndicalism there are some websites you can visit. The Industrial Workers of the World can be reached at www.iww.org and the magazine *Anarcho-Syndicalist Review*, can be found at www.syndicalist.org. Perhaps the best known anarcho-syndicalist in the United States is Noam Chomsky, who has written numerous books on media and foreign policy issues. The best introduction to anarcho-syndicalism is *The American Labor Movement: A New Beginning* by Sam Dolgoff, available through the *Anarcho-Syndicalist Review*. Other books written by Dolgoff, such as *The Anarchist Collectives* and *Bakunin on Anarchism* are also recommended.

B. Salt lives in Champaign-Urbana and has been active in the IWW, and the labor movement for several years.

Citizenship rights do not mean much when elections can be bought by wealthy campaign contributors and the media is controlled by large corporations.



Brief: Indymedia Server Seizure

by Scott Edwards

ON OCTOBER 7, 2004, Rackspace, a web-hosting provider based in San Antonio, was issued a secret court order, apparently in accordance with the International Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty, that required them to surrender two servers. The seizure took offline more than 20 IMC websites and more than 10 streaming radio feeds. The order prevents the company from divulging what authority seized the servers, or for what purpose.

In coordination with the Electronic Frontier Foundation, Indymedia is aggressively defending itself (and thus all independent journalism) from this latest state activity that effectively stifles the free exchange of ideas.

In late October, the EFF and the Urbana-Champaign IMC filed a motion to unseal the secret US federal court order that led to the seizure. The motion seeks to discover which governments and parties are responsible for the seizure, and the reasons. In their motion, EFF attorneys argue "the public and the press have a clear and compelling interest in discovering under what authority the government was able unilaterally to prevent Internet publishers from exercising their First

Amendment rights." They argue further that secret court orders circumvent due process and deny an avenue for redress. The motion is available for viewing at www.ucimc.org/motion.pdf.

"When a secret order results in the unconstitutional silencing of media, the public has a right to know what happened," said Kurt Opsahl, EFF Staff Attorney. "Freedom of the press is an essential part of the First Amendment, and our government must show it had a compelling state interest to order such an extreme intrusion to the rights of the publisher and the public."

"Silencing Indymedia with a secret order is no different than censoring any other news website, whether it's USA Today or your local paper," said Kevin Bankston, EFF attorney.

This case is complicated by the fact that it is international in nature. Thus, Indymedia and the free speech groups rallying to its defense may be forced to pursue redress in a number of national court systems with disparate rules on search and seizure. Prosecutors in Switzerland and Italy have admitted pursuing investigations related to Indymedia articles but

denied requesting the seizure.

The apparent fact that the US government was in some way involved should be troubling. Thus far, no US agencies have taken responsibility for the seizures. This paper has reported on various government repressions of independent media in the past, and that such a thing may have originated in our nominal democracy should be troubling not only to media advocates, but the at-large citizen.

One thing is for certain: the disruption of press activities by the US or European governments was a decision taken far too lightly by the perpetrating parties. Assuming the public ever determines exactly who leveled this assault on independent media, they must be held accountable.

The events surrounding the seizure of servers hosting various forums for independent journalism have been surprisingly well covered by corporate media, including a number of AP reports. As usual, however, the best way to stay informed about news generally ignored by corporate media is through your local IMC. Visit the UCIMC website (www.ucimc.org) for developments in this ongoing free-press crisis.

Zine Reviews

"Footloose" and "go by bicycle"

by Adam ?

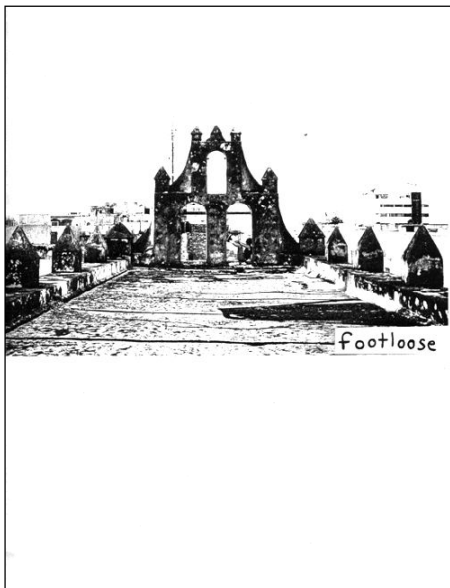
TWO ZINES RECENTLY MADE THEIR WAY to the IMC that I thought would be perfect to review together, because both take different approaches to the subject of travel. "Footloose," a locally-produced zine by Sarah Lazare, is a travel journal that follows her through Mexico and different parts of the United States. The other zine is "go by bicycle" #2, which addresses car culture, and offers the reader information about different alternative transportation projects occurring all across the world.

Though only 15 pages, "Footloose" is one of the best travel journals I've ever read. From the very get-go, the reader is sucked in by the author's beautiful use of language – vivid sceneries are created by Lazare's cut-and-paste narratives.

The reason I couldn't put down this zine is because Sarah only gives the reader snippets of her journal – each one delicately chosen to give only a taste of what she experienced. The whole time I sat reading the zine, I kept thinking, "I want to know more. I want her to tell me the whole story. I want to meet these people." In reality, I want to read her entire journal!!!

Forty miles south of San Cristobal, Sarah stayed with a farmer in an indigenous farming town. She describes some of the people she met while staying with him: "he took me around town today, introducing me to some of his friends. I met three womam potters who, as eh explained, refuse to have husbands. They were sitting in front of a store, sculpting, talking, laughing. They greeted me with such female comradery – patting me on the back and smiling so big..." The way Sarah describes this and other scenes really makes me realize how many different realities and cultures there are in the world. This zine allowed me to live vicariously through Sarah's perception of these realities.

I truly enjoyed the layout of the zine – the text overlays timely photos and drawings, and are placed so that the reader can easily distinguish the different



images that are presented. Sarah moves back and forth from travel-like journal entries to reports on the various protests she attended (Cancun and Miami), which is really effective in allowing the reader to imagine what Sarah isn't telling us. I hope that Sarah decides to continue to travel, and decides to publish more of her journals. At the end of the zine, I was salivating for more of her writing, and to



go and travel the world, myself!

"go by bicycle" #2 is a totally different experience. Equally as engaging, this zine provides the reader with an insight into the many bike/pedestrian-centered projects that are being implemented across the world.

In New York City, for instance, a group called "Vision42" is organizing a campaign to turn 42nd Street in Manhattan (one of the most congested streets in the city) into a light-rail / pedestrian-friendly avenue free of cars. Scott Larkin, gbb's creator, includes in this zine an intense interview with one of Vision42's organizers. I'm in awe of the immensity of the proposed project, which organizers say will cost around \$200 million – only 1/10th cost of an extension to the #7 subway (which is also being proposed by the NYC deputy mayor).

Larkin also includes articles on a London-based policy to limit cars entering into the city, China's new policy to make streets more Westernized by bringing more cars into the city, and Walt Disney's idea that the "City of Tomorrow" should be more pedestrian-friendly, and less car-centric. This hodge-podge mix of writings is enjoyable more for the information it purveys than for its literary quality. Its simple design makes the information easily accessible to any reader, and will certainly pique the interest of any bike enthusiast or anti-car activist.

If you're into traveling to far-away lands or just down the street on your bicycle, I'm sure that you'll enjoy these zines just as much as I did.

"go by bicycle" #1 & 2 are now available for check out to members at the U-C IMC zine library, and are catalogued under "politicalzine." Sarah Lazare's "Footloose" can be found under "perzine." Both will be featured with other newly-catalogued zines in the front of our library for your reading pleasure. Enjoy!

AWARE (the Anti-War, Anti-Racism Effort) presents

War: Truth and Consequences: An Event to Commemorate Veteran's Day

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 1-4PM
MCKINLEY FOUNDATION

(809 S. Fifth Street, Champaign)

1:00pm Keynote Speaker: Paul Vogel, a small businessman from Barrington, Illinois, whose 23 year old son Aaron, is an Army reservist who recently returned home from Iraq. In November 2003, Paul visited his son in Baghdad.

1:45pm Roaa Al-Heeti will do a slide presentation illustrating the effects of the war on the Iraqi people. Roaa is a University of Illinois Law Student who visited relatives in Iraq with her father last year.

2:30pm Excerpts from two films: "Honor Betrayed" and "Hijacking Catastrophe" : Footage of soldiers on the ground in Iraq, military family members, and a Vietnam veteran who speak about the realities of war and combat.

3:00pm Three generations of local vets speak out about their own experiences: Bob Wahlfeldt, (combat veteran of WW 2), Joe Miller (of Vietnam Veterans Against the War), Bob Illyes, Meg Miner, and Paul King.

All donations from this event will benefit Iraq Vets Against the War, an organization of returning US soldiers who oppose the on-going war in Iraq.

For more information contact Carol at 344-9155 or carolinskeep@yahoo.com

WRFU Meetings

WRFU is an IMC project to build and operate a low-power radio to serve our community. With 168 hours available every week to fill with YOUR public affairs, music, and arts shows, WRFU is seeking volunteers to self-organize programming groups and perform other functions of the station. We will be on the air by June 2005 or sooner. WRFU meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 8pm at the IMC, 218 W. Main in Urbana. This month's WRFU meeting will be held on November 16th.